

SARS-CoV-2 Serology Testing Instructions

*All SARS-CoV-2 serology-testing requests must be approved by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) prior to submission to DCLS.
Contact your local health department epidemiology representative for assistance.*

I. TESTING SUMMARY:

- **SARS-CoV-2 Total Antibody testing** - detection of SARS-CoV-2 total antibodies including IgM and IgG in blood.

II. SPECIMEN COLLECTION & HANDLING:

- Serum is the required sample type.
- Collect at least 5 mL of blood in a blood collection tube. A serum separator tube (SST), with gel serum separator, is preferred.
- For SST's, centrifuge according to manufacturer's instructions for separation of whole blood if possible.
- Store specimens at 2-8°C after centrifuging.

III. SPECIMEN SUBMISSION:

- Accurately complete the DCLS COVID-19 Submission Form (see link below). Indicate "**SARS-CoV-2 Total Antibody test**".
- Drop specimen(s) off at the nearest local Health Department. If not feasible, contact DCLS to coordinate other arrangements.
- Package and ship specimens refrigerated on ice packs using watertight primary and secondary receptacles. Place absorbent material inside primary receptacle with specimen, place inside secondary receptacle and ship using a sturdy outer package (Category B - UN 3373).
- Packages must be shipped overnight for next day delivery.

IV. TURNAROUND TIME/REPORTING:

- The SARS-CoV-2 total antibody testing has a turn-around time of approximately 3-5 business days.

V. DCLS SARS-CoV-2 Specimen Collection/Shipping Kits:

- Blood collection tubes and shippers may be requested by contacting the DCLS Kits Department.
- Laboratories can provide their own materials to collect and ship specimens in compliance with IATA and DOT regulations.

VI. CONTACT INFORMATION:

- **DCLS Courier List:** <https://dgs.virginia.gov/division-of-consolidated-laboratory-services/lab-services/courier-list/>
- **Request Kits:** DCLS Kits Department 804-648-4480, x104
- **Coordinate Testing Events and Courier Transport of Specimens:** Lead Scientist, Dr. LaToya Griffin-Thomas Latoya.Griffin-Thomas@dgs.virginia.gov or 804-385-8057
- **General Specimen Submission Inquiries:** Immunology Group Manager, Dr. Heather Masri Heather.Masri@dgs.virginia.gov or 804-648-4480 ext. 269
- **Reports:** DCLS Customer Reports, 804-648-4480
- **VDH COVID-19 Response Line:** 1-877-ASK-VDH3
- **DCLS 24/7 Emergency Number:** 804-335-4617
 - This number should not be used to confirm sample receipt, request testing status, or request results during normal business hours. Your call will be redirected if it pertains to sample receipt confirmation, testing status, or result reports.

VII. REFERENCES:

- CDC 2019-nCoV: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- Health department locator: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/health-department-locator/>
- DCLS COVID-19 Submission Form: <https://dgs.virginia.gov/globalassets/business-units/dcls/documents/sample-kits/dcls-covid-19-submission-form-34293-3.pdf>
- FDA Emergency Use Authorization: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-emergency-use-authorizations-medical-devices/vitro-diagnostics-euas>